

Message Text

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10

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 L-03 H-02 RSR-01 /091 W

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R 190955 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3818

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB EGEN

SUBJECT: GOM RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT

REF: BANGKOK 4051

1. IN LINE WITH STATED GOM POLICY TO ENCOURAGE FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND BACKED BY INVESTMENT INCENTIVE ACT 1968, GOM PLANS FEW RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, PARTICULARLY FOR INDUSTRIES QUALIFYING FOR PIONEER STATUS.

2. AS FOR FOREIGN WORKERS, WORK PERMITS ISSUED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS WITH DECISION UP TO A COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF REPS FROM VARIOUS GOM MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING IMMIGRATION, LABOR, TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND LABOR UNIONS. ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL GOM RELEASE EXPLAINING EMPLOYMENT (RESTRICTION) ACT 1968, " NON- CITIZENS MAY BE EMPLOYED PROVIDED AN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT IS OBTAINED FROM THE MINISTRY OF LABOR. THERE SHOULD BE NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING SUCH PERMITS OR OTHER WORK PASSES FROM THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT IN THE CASE OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WHERE LOCAL TRAINED PERSONNEL IS NOT YET AVAILABLE." IN PRACTICE, A NUMBER OF US AND OTHER FOREIGN FIRMS HAVE EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY OBTAINING OR RENEWING WORK PERMITS FOR ANY BUT TOP MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL. IT SOMETIMES

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BECOMES NECESSARY TO CHANGE JOB DESCRIPTION I. E. FROM ACCOUNTANT TO FINANCIAL CONSULTANT TO OBTAIN PERMIT.

3. DUE VAGUENESS OF GOM LAW AND WITH EACH CASE DECIDED ON ITS OWN MERITS, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SET FORTH ANY GENERAL GOM POLICY ON EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN PERSONNEL.

4. AIR POUCHING WITH INFO FOR DEPT. COPY OF STUDY DONE BY SGV GROUP ENTITLED, COMPARATIVE INVESTMENT INCENTIVES - INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN AND THAILAND - WHICH MAY BE HELPFUL TO EMBASSY BANGKOK.

DECON 3/31/73.

LYDMAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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